Demand of rationed items under PDS for Rajasthan

1994. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the total demands for rationed items under PDS, received from Rajasthan, during past three years;

(b) whether the said demands had been entirely fulfilled;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the quantum of allocation made;

(e) the actual quantum of these commodities lifted by the State;

(f) what is yardstick for supply of ration items to reach BPL family and whether it has been complied with in Rajasthan during last three years; and

(g) whether above yardstick could be considered to be sufficient as per consumption norms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (g) Commodity-wise position of ration items for Rajasthan under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is as follows:

Foodgrains: Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is expected to cater to half of monthly cereal requirements of an average family. Under it Central Government makes an allocation of foodgrains @ 35 kgs. per family per month on the basis of number of ration cards issued by the States/Union Territories (UTs) or the number of house-holds worked out on the basis of poverty estimates of the Planning Commission for 1993-94 and the population projection of Registrar General of India as on 1.3.2000 whichever is less. The allocation are made based on this norm and not as per demand of State Government.

On this basis, the total number of Families, as on 1.3.2000, accepted by this Ministry for allocations in respect of the State of Rajasthan are as follows:

(Figures in lakh tons)

AAY	BPL	APL
9.32	14.99	64.36

The allocation of foodgrains for TPDS for wheat and rice has been rationalized w.e.f. June, 2006 and April, 2007, respectively, on the basis of monthly offtake of previous three years for all the States/Union Territories to make them realistic and in line with availability of wheat and rice in the Central Pool. No change, however, has been made in the entitlement/ allocation for the Below Poverty Line (BPL) and the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families.

While allocations of foodgrains to the State @ 35 kg. per family per month have been made for all AAY and BPL families, for APL families, the allocations are being made based on the rationalized norms and in quantities which can be accommodated in the Central Pool. The details of the allocation and offtake of foodgrains (wheat and rice) made for the BPL, AAY and the APL families for the last three years are given in Statement. (*See* below)

Levy sugar: The levy sugar allocation to every State/Union Territory is made as per the quota fixed by the Central Government and not as per demands made by the States/UTs. The levy sugar quota of Rajasthan is 7342 MTs per months besides annual festival quota of 5092 MTs.

Details of the allocation of levy sugar made for the State of Rajasthan are as below:

(In '000 tons)

Sugar Season	Qty. of levy sugar allocated
2004-05	83.92
2005-06	24.00
2006-07	55.37

From August, 2005 to May, 2007, the allocation of levy sugar to Rajasthan was not made as per the quota fixed for Rajasthan due to poor lifting by the State Government from the concerned sugar mills. The responsibility of distribution of levy sugar to the PDS beneficiaries lies with the State Government.

PDS Kerosene: Allocation of PDS kerosene is made by the Government of India to the States/Union Territories (UTs) on a quarterly basis for distribution under Public Distribution System (PDS). Further distribution within the States/UTs through their PDS network is the responsibility of the concernd States/UTs. The scale of distribution of PDS SKO per cardholder varies from State to State and is decided by the State Governments/UTs.

In accordance with the policy adopted by the Government of India in 2000, Kerosene (SKO) allocation for distribution under the Public Distribution System (PDS) was reduced every year beginning 2001-02 till 2003-04, taking into account the number of LPG connections released in each State/Union Territory. While the initial allotment for 2004-05 was based on the criteria adopted hitherto, additional allocations were made during the year to meet urgent/emergent demand. For the year 2005-06, allocations have been maintained at the level of 2004-05, including additional allocation made during that year. Allocations for first three quarters for 2007-08 have been maintained at the level of 2006-07. During the last three years, 4 requests for enhancement of allocation of PDS SKO have been received from the State Government of Rajasthan. Details of PDS SKO allocation/upliftment for Rajasthan during the last three years are as under:

(Figures in MTs)

Year	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07
PDS SKO allocated	396500	398913	398913
Additional SKO allocated	2413 (Urgent)	-	2334 (Flood)
SKO uplifted	396765 (Incl. additional allocation)	392790	399988 (Incl. additional allocation)

In view of requests received from State Governments for increasing SKO allocations, Government of India got conducted a detailed study on Kerosene demand in the country from the National Council for Applied Economic Research (NCAER). NCAER in its report in October, 2005 recommended to restrict supply of subsidised kerosene to BPL families only.

For formulating a long-term pricing policy on petroleum products, the Inter-Ministerial Committee headed by Dr. C. Rangarajan, recommended to restrict subsidy on kerosene to BPL families only. The Government has accepted the recommendations and decided in principle that subsidy on PDS kerosene be limited to BPL families only.

Statement

The details of the allocation and offtake of foodgrains made for BPL, AAY and APL families for the last 3 years (2004-2007)

(In thousand tonnes)

Year		Allotment				Offtake				% Offtake			
		BPL	APL	AAY	TOTAL	BPL	APL	AAY	TOTAL	BPL	APL	AAY	TOTAL
2004-2005													
	Rice	8.155	67.380	2.897	78.432	0.000	0.000	0.345	0.345	0.0	0.0	11.9	0.4
	wheat	700.713	2,696.376	248.775	3,645.864	651.375	301.545	230.606	1,183.526	93.0	11.2	92.7	32.5
	Total	708.868	2,763.756	251.672	3,724.296	651.375	301.545	230.951	1,183.871	91.9	10.9	91.8	31.8
2005-2006													
	Rice	75.574	575.212	3.823	654.609	19.240	0.000	1.450	20.690	25.5	0.0	37.9	3.2
	wheat	517.808	2,188.544	336.195	3,042.547	450.330	204.170	299.120	953.620	87.0	9.3	89.0	31.3
	Total	593.382	2,763.756	340.018	3,697.156	469.570	204.170	300.570	974.310	79.1	7.4	88.4	26.4
2006-2007													
	Rice	200.934	810.936	11.320	1,023.190	100.022	5.876	4.562	110.460	49.8	0.7	40.3	10.8
	wheat	434.372	526.954	374.394	1,335.720	416.853	155.099	343.462	915.414	96.0	29.4	91.7	68.5
	TOTAL	635.306	1,337.890	385.714	2,358.910	516.875	160.975	348.024	1,025.874	81.4	12.0	90.2	43.5